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CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

DEPUTY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
Plaintiff,

v.

Efrein MENDOZA-Cardenas  
Defendant.

Magistrate Case No.: 08 MJ 2359

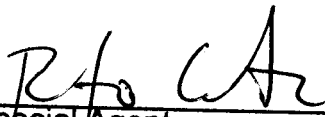
COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATION OF

21 U.S.C. § 952 and 960  
Importation of a Controlled Substance  
(Felony)


The undersigned complainant being duly sworn states:

That on or about July 30, 2008, within the Southern District of California, defendant Efrein MENDOZA-Cardenas did knowingly and intentionally import approximately 16.04 kilograms (35.28 pounds) of cocaine, a Schedule II Controlled Substance, into the United States from a place outside thereof, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 952 and 960.

The complainant states that this complaint is based on the attached Statement of Facts incorporated herein by reference.

  
Special Agent  
U.S. Immigration & Customs  
Enforcement

SWORN TO BEFORE ME AND SUBSCRIBED IN MY PRESENCE, THIS 31st,  
DAY OF JULY 2008.

  
JAN M. ADLER  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

1 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

2 V.

3 Efrein MENDOZA-Cardenas

4 STATEMENT OF FACTS

5 This Statement of Facts is based on the reports, documents, and notes furnished  
6 to U. S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Special Agent Brandon Wood.

7 On July 30, 2008, at approximately 1540 hours, Efrein MENDOZA-Cardenas  
8 entered the United States at the Calexico, California East Port of Entry (POE).  
9 MENDOZA was the driver, registered owner, and sole occupant of a 2002 Toyota  
Camry with California license plate number 6CHU444.

10 During pre-primary roving operations, Customs and Border Protection Canine  
11 Enforcement Officer (CEO) J. Jones was screening vehicles with his Narcotics Human  
12 Detector Dog (NHDD) when his NHDD alerted to the rockers of MENDOZA's vehicle.  
13 MENDOZA was escorted to the vehicle secondary office and CEO J. Jones drove the  
14 vehicle into the vehicle secondary lot for a more intensive inspection.

15 In the vehicle secondary office, Customs and Border Protection Officer (CBPO)  
16 A. Cuellar received a negative customs declaration from MENDOZA. MENDOZA  
17 stated to CBPO A. Cuellar that he had owned the vehicle for five (5) months and that  
18 he was on his way to Calexico to shop. Upon further inspection of the vehicle, CBPO  
19 A. Cuellar discovered packages in the rocker panels of the vehicle. One of the  
20 packages was probed which revealed a white substance which tested positive for  
21 cocaine, a Schedule II Controlled Substance. The total weight of the packages was  
22 16.04 kilograms (35.28 pounds).

23 Special Agent (SA) Brandon Wood placed MENDOZA under arrest for violation  
24 of Title 21 United States Code 952 and 960, Importation of a Controlled Substance.  
25 MENDOZA was advised of his Constitutional Rights, per Miranda, which he  
26 acknowledged and waived.

27 MENDOZA admitted knowledge that a controlled substance was concealed  
28 within the vehicle. MENDOZA stated to SA Wood that the smuggling organization was  
29 going to pay him \$2500 to smuggle the controlled substance into the United States.

*Handwritten signature*

MENDOZA stated that he was paid \$1000 of the \$2500 up front. MENDOZA was processed, booked, and transported to Imperial County Jail.

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